UNITED
NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/AC.172/1996/1
2 February 1996

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

COMMITTEE ON CONFERENCES
Substantive session of 1996
19-23 August 1996

AGENDA AND PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR 1996

The agenda of the Committee on Conferences for 1996 was approved by the Committee at its organizational session, on 1 February 1996, on the basis of a draft agenda proposed by the Secretariat in document A/AC.172/1996/L.1. Accordingly, the approved agenda for 1996 is issued in the present document, together with an indication as to what documentation will be provided for the Committee's consideration in 1996.

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Agenda for 1996

1. Adoption of the agenda.

2. Calendar of conferences and meetings:

   (a) Adoption of the draft revised calendar of conferences and meetings for 1997;

   (b) Improved utilization of conference-servicing resources:

      (i) Meeting statistics of United Nations organs;

      (ii) Consultations with bodies concerning utilization of the conference services and facilities available to them;

      (iii) Provision of interpretation services to meetings of regional and other major groupings of Member States;

      (iv) Cost-accounting system for conference services;

   (c) Requests for exceptions to section I, paragraph 7, of General Assembly resolution 40/243.

3. Control and limitation of documentation:

   (a) Implementation of General Assembly resolution 50/206 C;

   (b) Provision of written meeting records to subsidiary organs of the General Assembly;

   (c) Implementation of the rules and regulations on control and limitation of documentation: compliance with, and review of, the 24- and 32-page limits for documentation;

   (d) Format of reports of subsidiary bodies;

   (e) Access to the optical disk system by developing countries;

   (f) Translation-related matters.

4. United Nations publications policy: implementation of General Assembly resolution 43/222 B, paragraph 4 (h).

5. Review of the programme performance of the United Nations for the biennium 1994-1995: section 25E, Conference services.

6. Adoption of the report.

Annotations

1. Adoption of the agenda

2. Calendar of conferences and meetings

(a) Adoption of the draft revised calendar of conferences and meetings for 1997

A draft revised calendar of conferences and meetings for 1997 will be submitted by the Secretariat to the Committee at its substantive session of 1996.

(b) Improved utilization of conference-servicing resources

(i) Meeting statistics of United Nations organs

Sub-item 2 (b) (i) will be taken up on the basis of a written report containing an expanded core sample of bodies.

(ii) Consultations with bodies concerning utilization of the conference services and facilities available to them

Under this sub-item, an oral report will be presented on the consultations held between the Chairman of the Committee and the chairmen of bodies that had consistently utilized less than the benchmark figures applicable for the past three sessions.

Moreover, the Secretariat will provide oral reports on the replies received from the chairmen of subsidiary bodies that had utilized less than 80 per cent of their conference resources in 1994 and on the consultations with various bodies and committees to ensure rational allocation and capacity utilization of all United Nations conference facilities at Headquarters, United Nations Offices and other duty stations.

Lastly, the Secretariat will provide a written report on the active dialogue between Conference Services and the substantive secretariats of intergovernmental bodies, requested by the Committee on Conferences at its substantive session of 1995 and by the General Assembly in paragraph 9 of its resolution 50/206 A of 23 December 1995.

(iii) Provision of interpretation services to meetings of regional and other major groupings of Member States

The Secretariat will present an oral report on the matter to the Committee at its substantive session of 1996.

(iv) Cost-accounting system for conference services

The Secretariat will submit a conference room paper on the cost-accounting system.

(c) Requests for exceptions to section I, paragraph 7, of General Assembly resolution 40/243

In accordance with established procedure, chairmen of subsidiary organs of the General Assembly that wish to meet at Headquarters during the fifty-first session of the Assembly should submit their requests to the Chairman of the Committee on Conferences. Requests so received will be submitted to the Committee in a conference room paper, which will be issued as close as possible to the opening of the session to ensure the inclusion of the fullest information available.

3. Control and limitation of documentation

(a) Implementation of General Assembly resolution 50/206 C

The Secretariat will submit a comprehensive report on the implementation of the measures called for under General Assembly resolution 50/206 C, which will include separate reports on sub-items 3 (b) to 3 (e) below.

(b) Provision of written meeting records to subsidiary organs of the General Assembly

(c) Implementation of the rules and regulations on control and limitation of documentation: compliance with, and review of, the 24- and 32-page limits for documentation

(d) Format of reports of subsidiary bodies

(e) Access to the optical disk system by developing countries

(f) Translation-related matters

The Secretariat will present an oral report on the translation-related matters referred to in the report of the Committee on Conferences to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session 1/ and in paragraph 4 of General Assembly resolution 50/206 E.

4. United Nations publications policy: implementation of General Assembly resolution 43/222 B, paragraph 4 (h)

The Committee will consider the report on publications policy (A/C.5/48/10), which was submitted to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session.

5. Review of the programme performance of the United Nations for the biennium 1994-1995: section 25E, Conference services

In accordance with General Assembly resolution 39/238, the Committee will consider the programme performance for the biennium 1994-1995 concerning conference services.

6. Adoption of the report

Notes

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 32 (A/50/32 and Add.1 and 2), paras. 46 and 90.